

Elton John
to wed longtime
partner

Palace confirms energy super body now in place

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
Balanced News. Fearless View.

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Palace: GMA is not afraid of Lopezes

Ermita: Gov't bent on collecting P42B from Meralco

From 25, Harcourt Secretary Sidney Jones and Professor Raymond Aronson were united by tradition from the Lopez family which controls not only Mexico but also the influential AMLO (2000) media company.

Another option being considered by the government is the buy-

Appointment of Panganiban draws praise

PRINCIPAL MAGISTRATE—Anwar's appointment of Associate Justice Klorian Nopandani as Supreme Court chief drew praise yesterday but the nomination of the so-called "weak"

ing class" going to the highest (and least) value under criticism is

Speakers from the University presented and several senior magistrates of the high bench were now being lined up to answer the highest post in the judiciary over *Pragmatism* reacted the state.

last retirement age of 70 on Dec. 7, 2000.

The resulting dual policy is viewed as the most rational one, because experts, themselves guilty of mental chaos, in the distant

Notes: There's grounds about to erupt near Hollywood.

HARRIS, ON WATSON and the new Chief Justice says "one of the respected and brilliant jurists in the country and also a public writer. I believe he will make an excellent chief justice."

Palace set to pay Piatco P3B soonest

MANILA—The Philippine government is inclined to pay Philippine International Air Terminal Co. (Phiat) the minimum P1 billion ordered by the Supreme Court just to expedite the opening of the Manila-Singapore International Airport Terminal 3, located along the old route road.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Benito said the government had

the option to file a motion for reconsideration with the high court but that doing so did not appear to be worth the effort. It pointed out that the resolution of a motion for reconsideration could "take several months and further delay" the opening of the courts.

The policy group might opt to pay the amounts immediately.

But Sullivan General Adm. de Swiggoys wanted that the government could lose heavily if it paid up before taking over Iraq's

The Wilson upheld a decision by Judge Kenneth Griesbach

of the Party National Trial Court March 117 for the payment to payDawson the \$5 million held in escrow as part of the latter's compensation for building No. 3.

Dawson's build-operate-transfer contract was nullified by the re-

ENTREPRENEUR

STRANDED IN CALAPAN

RESCUERS help villagers in a helicopter during Sunday's rescue mission in flooded areas in Copper City in Orissa Province. (Story on Page A1.)



PHACELLES miss have sought shelter in a Catholic church (above) more in recent past than in New Orleans. At left, a woman is escorted from her home by a soldier. Below, a close-up of a woman's face as she is escorted by soldiers in riot gear.

PALACE REPLY

'Those who say we're not free are out of touch with reality'

By Christine O. Avendaño
and Philip Tubera

MALACANANG YESTERDAY INVITED an independent monitoring group to come to the country and see for itself how free the nation was.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye yesterday made the invitation to Freedom House following a ratings downgrade it gave the Philippines in its annual report rating every nation in the world as "free, partly free or not free."

"They can see for themselves how Constitutional democracy works, how the media works and how the people freely express themselves," Bunye said in a statement.

As if to prove this point, Bunye chided the monitoring body.

"Those who say that there is no freedom in the Philippines are out of touch with reality," he said.

From its previous rating of "free," the Philippines was rated as "partly free" by Freedom House based on what the body said were allegations of electoral fraud, corruption and government intimidation of opposition members that were found to be "credible."

The body's survey covered the period from Dec. 1, 2004 to Nov. 30, 2005.

Lawmakers reacted to the downgrade along party lines.

Administration lawmakers described as baseless and unreliable Lakas-CMD Representatives Edmundo Zialcita (Parañaque) and

Isidoro Real (Zamboanga del Sur) said the downgrade was unfair since it was based only on "perception and allegations of poll fraud, and not concrete evidence or scientific basis."

"It is a sad fact that in Philippine elections, there is always no loser because everyone who lost his or her bid claims to have been cheated. Freedom House must realize this sad reality," said Zialcita.

He scored Freedom House for "overstepping on an issue" that he said rested solely on the Presidential Electoral Tribunal.

"The poll allegations issue is not within Freedom House's jurisdiction especially that it is a foreign organization. The international freedom rating group cannot change the fact that PET has closed the doors on this issue," he said.

Zialcita said the PET's decision junking the poll protest against President Arroyo may have been based on technicalities, but "the public cannot twist the rules just to favor a candidate who is already dead or his wife who has no legal personality to pursue the protest against the President."

House Minority Leader Francis Es-



BUNYE

cadero, however, said that the downgrade confirmed what the opposition "had been saying for a long time."

He said that besides the "unresolved charges" of cheating against the President, her administration's calloused presumptive response (CPR) policy that had led to violence during protest rallies, and her order requiring executive officials to get her permission before attending legislative inquiries should also be blamed for the downgrade.

The opposition had accused the administration of implementing a "creeping Martial Law" after Congress threw out the impeachment complaint against Ms. Arroyo.

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Parties defer decision on ConCom's 'no-election' option

PART OF THE LEGISLATIVE OPPORTUNITY to the scoping of the 2007 amendments, made a political parties have decided to defer a decision on the Constitutional Commission's controversial proposal, Speaker Jose de Venecia said.

Party leaders instead focused on the big picture—the urgency of a shift to a public assembly system.

"The party heads unanimously agreed to support Cha's motion but they postponed extending the terms of debate officials should not benefit legislators," said De Venecia, who is also the chair of the Committee on Philippine Political Parties.

De Venecia said the coalition party heads would discuss "more extensively"

with those individual parties the controversial proposal from the 55-member ConCom, which submitted its recommendations for constitutional amendments to the President last Friday.

He said the party heads had agreed to push the amendments for constitutional reform up to the stage for approval of a national plebiscitary option, and its eventual actual place remains the upcoming.

It was the third meeting this year of the conference meeting committee and the House was not in session.

De Venecia, however, Eduardo Iñiguez, who represented the ruling PDP-Laban party with House Secretary Raul Gonsales, and Speaker member Roberto Arana, said no-

final safety cannot "discussing" considering of party strategy according the bill to move the country forward.

To resolve the impasse over Charter change, administration legislators and opposition legislators must agree to bring the legislative initiative Development Administration Council (DACA) where Senate and the House members could conduct a "national dialogue."

The Speaker and Senate President Franklin Drilon should take the lead in brokering out the contentious issues, said House Speaker Iñiguez (Democrat) and Senate President Drilon, who set the chair of the House committee on constitutional amendments.

"The one initiative based in the House since the approval the creation of ConCom, but I believe Senate Initiative will be the future," said the ConCom's staff recommendation is out of place because no time to bring the issue to discussion yet," Arana said.

De Venecia said Cha's motion must be held longer to "differentiate" something that lawmakers had been "satisfied in the many political initiatives and it will be wrong if the Cha's initiative will be postponed by default."

According to Cha's motion and the proposal to amend the 2007 amendment and extend the terms of all elected officials, he stressed the House administration's "solidarity, good and good."

He strongly recommended, Cha said the House had no business thinking with Cha's change to discuss yet to ensure no-extended system about its legitimacy.

The national Alliance of Progressive Labor (APL) described the ConCom's proposal as anti-voters and anti-state.

APL accused that House leaders called out voters to oppose Charter change as it would, among other things, prolong the tenure of the Senate Administration.

The movement Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) also opposed the "no-election" proposal, citing extensive public opinion. — Michael Dim Llan, Jovene Arana and Christine E. Espinoza

Special session eyed for Cha-cha

By Michael Dim Llan

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110 Annals of Tab. 11 Two men like Chris Paros of Cebu in their game last night.

Kings turn back Pals

By Jan Harvey

CHIEF PORTER, BEYOND THE point, pulled himself back and a jump shot to 77-72 and was 10-10 in the first half. The Kings-PBA Finals Game 1 was held at the Cebu Sports Center last night at the Cebu Sports Center.

From 10-10 in the first half, the Kings-PBA Finals Game 1 was held at the Cebu Sports Center last night at the Cebu Sports Center.

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"The Kings game is a difficult one, especially for the Kings," said the Kings coach, who said the Kings game is a difficult one, especially for the Kings.

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Elbow on Espino costs Thomas P150,000 fine

THOMAS THOMAS THOMAS THE most experienced basketball player in the Philippines, Thomas Thomas, was fined P150,000 for elbowing an opponent during a game last night.

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SMC, sports backers receive PSA citations

REVEREND GASTON SANCHEZ, a long-time supporter and friend of the late, Rev. Fr. Simeon, was cited for his role in the Philippine Sports Commission's decision to award the 2002 PBA Finals to the Kings.

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GMA hands cash incentives to RP medalists today

By Mary Anthony Reyes

MANILA, Dec. 12—AFTER A WELL-deserved 81st birthday, the national athletes will receive today their cash rewards for being the country's best in the 2002 Asian Games.

A total of P20 million will be given to the Philippine athletes who won 112 gold medals on top of 341 silver and 54 bronze to give the overall crown from 2000 when Thailand won the medal.

President Macapagal-Arroyo will hand out the medals to the athletes who won the gold medal in the 2002 Asian Games.

The athletes who won the gold medal in the 2002 Asian Games will receive P20 million each.

The athletes who won the silver medal in the 2002 Asian Games will receive P10 million each.

The athletes who won the bronze medal in the 2002 Asian Games will receive P5 million each.

The athletes who won the gold medal in the 2002 Asian Games will receive P20 million each.



PONE

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 (In correct order)

METRO
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Small print text and contact information for Metro.

3 guards relieved for jailbreak

It's a dog's life in QC

By Lela B. Sabers

FOLLOWING THE ESCAPE OF THREE of its inmates, the Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) relieved three guards from their posts and is now a hot-flying committee to investigate the incident.

To avoid suspicion of a job, the committee will be composed of representatives of the Bureau, the Department of Prisons, and the Department of Justice, according to its immediate commander, Alvin B. Bantayan.

The panel has 20 working days to submit a report and come out with its report and recommendations.

At Marikina City Jail, Bantayan, who had been accused of complicity in the alleged depredation of Marikina

prison, is also investigating the escape.

One of the escaped prisoners, Sgt. Lito Lito, a Marikina resident, is now in the Marikina Jail.

The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) had filed complaints against Bantayan, Bantayan and several others in connection with the alleged depredation.

An NBI official who contacted the escapee said he had been looking for the possibility of making a deal with a state witness. Bantayan escaped with Chinese nationals, The Star and On the Edge on Dec. 19.

At Marikina City Jail, Bantayan is now investigating the escape of the three escaped prisoners.

There were no depredations in the three prisons where the escapees were held.

Bantayan said it had been the practice of the Bureau to depredate inmates as guards as long as they are accompanied by a Bureau official.

The Bureau, Bantayan said, is a team of 100 depredators in the Marikina City Jail.

Bantayan had already been relieved from the escape and advised not to move around Marikina City Jail.

They were on duty when the three escapees were held.

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By Sid Tap

NOT ON MY WATCH, YOU DON'T

Relieved by dogs that roam over in the parks' backyards whenever nature calls, Queen City residents have prepared themselves for the worst.

"Unfamiliar animals or animals" by nature on other people's property is just one of several "prohibited acts" in a proposed ordinance seeking to regulate dog ownership in the City.

Another provision says that a dog owner who is not a resident of the City is not a resident of the City.

The ordinance also says that a dog owner who is not a resident of the City is not a resident of the City.

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Fire spoils holiday mood

MORE THAN 20 FAMILIES lost their homes after a big fire in a residential complex in Cebu, about 200 miles from Manila, last night.

The fire was caused by a faulty wiring in the kitchen of a house. The fire spread rapidly, destroying the house and the house next to it.

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NOT ORDINARY YULE TREES: These trees from the Marikina City Jail are being sold in bulk at Marikina City Jail. They are intended to be sold to the public.

A 'green' wish for Christmas

THEIR CITY MIGHTY WISHES are to have a green Christmas.

The City of Marikina has issued a call for the Marikina City government to stop using trees in the Christmas decorations.

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3-in-1 card for Marikina employees

By John C. Santos

STARTING NEXT YEAR, MARIKINA City Hall employees will use just one card to do the following: maintain working in and out of the office, access the Marikina City Hall.

The three-in-one Integrated Card for Employees (ICE) will be distributed to the about 2,000 employees working in the city.

The ICE will be distributed to the about 2,000 employees working in the city.

Cardholder John Santos said the ICE Card will be used for the following: maintain working in and out of the office, access the Marikina City Hall.

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MetroBribs

Get the Bribe

AGENTS of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) arrested a suspected bribe collector in Marikina City.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

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New Chief Justice an intellectual

THE NEW CHIEF JUSTICE, JUSTICE P. N. Lito, is a former judge and lawyer who has been a member of the Supreme Court since 1998.

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ON TARGET

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Keep it down, please

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IBM
 xSeries 236
 AMTI

BUSINESS

Executive Editor: **Armando D. Placido**
 Assistant Editor: **Corrie S. Morales**

Gov't OKs clearinghouse for vehicle insurance

Junks proposal of GSIS to be appointed sole policy issuer

By **Michelle Y. Reyes**

THE INSURANCE COMMISSION SAID IT HAS ALREADY gotten the nod of the Land Transportation Office (LTO) for the implementation of the proposed clearinghouse system for the sale of vehicle insurance policies.

Insurance Commissioner **Francisco Francisco** said the insurance industry was all set for the implementation of the system, which is aimed at addressing the rampant sale of fake compulsory third party liability (CTPL) insurance policies. The clearinghouse system would be implemented early next year, he said.

This means that the LTO has turned down the insurance reform proposal of state-owned **GSIS**. Under the insurance reform (GRIIS) of being the sole

insurer of CTPL policies in general, GSIS is not the sole insurer.

Francisco said the clearinghouse system could deliver some P3 billion worth of insurance next year from the sale of CTPL policies to legitimate insurance companies as against the P1.2 billion this year. The insurance industry should have collected P2.7 billion worth of insurance from the vehicle insurance business this year, but about P1.5 billion was not properly recorded partly because of fraudulent sale of CTPL policies.

that digital vehicle system, he added.

Under the clearinghouse system, vehicle owners will have to pay the amount of insurance premiums they bought through accredited banks. The banks will then forward the data to the CTPL Processing Center (CPC), which will be operated by licensed third-party insurance companies. The CPC is a facility to determine whether the insurance policy bought by a vehicle owner is legitimate or fake. Vehicle owners are advised to get their CTPL policies from a licensed insurance agent.

Once it has cleared the sale of an insurance policy, the CPC will forward the information to the database system of the LTO's recording.

Also, accredited banks will place CTPL policy payments in the bank accounts of the concerned insurance companies.

Francisco said that so far, **State Bank**, **Rural Commercial Banking Corp.**, and **Bank of the Philippine Islands** are ready to have their systems in place for the implementation of the clearinghouse system. Insurance PFI Bank will have its system in place by February next year, while **Bank of the Philippine Islands** and other banks are expected to be ready anytime next year.

The implementation of the clearinghouse system will change the way vehicle owners get CTPL policies. **Francisco** said the system will ensure that the insurance industry is not flooded with fake policies. Under the existing system, the LTO does not have sufficient system.



CURRENCIES

Currency	Rate
US Dollar (USD)	₱ 46.00
Euro (EUR)	₱ 78.00
Japanese Yen (JPY)	₱ 3.50



STOCK MARKET
 Shares up slightly
 In early trading, the Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEI) rose 10 points to 4,600. The All-Share Index (ASI) also rose 10 points to 11,100.

BCDA to auction 2 Fort Boni lots in '06

By **Ronald W. Domingo**

THE BASIS CONVERSION AND Development Authority (BCDA) today said it would bid some 25 hectares of land in Fort Boni north-west about 400 meters in 2006.

BCDA vice president **Allen Cruz** said the lot is in the northern part of the **Fort Boni** Subdivided City (FBCSC) and is being sold to the public.

is in the Northern General Subdivided City.

"These lots are up for sale, in a prime location," he said. "These areas are the most desirable, because the development could be a combination of commercial and residential purposes."

Both areas are located north of **Fort Boni**, near the **Fort Boni** Subdivided City (FBCSC) and the **Fort Boni** Subdivided City (FBCSC).

located by **Fort Boni**.

Both lots are near the **Fort Boni** Subdivided City (FBCSC), which is a prime location for the development of the **Fort Boni** Subdivided City (FBCSC).

One will be used for the development of the **Fort Boni** Subdivided City (FBCSC).

WHAT'S INSIDE
 Gov't '05 borrowings reach P237B

Funding bottlenecks slowing Roro

TOYOTA ALTIS

TOYOTA INNOVA

DON'T LET A GOOD CHRISTMAS BUY GO BY!

Get a TOYOTA VALUE CERTIFICATE worth up to **P40,000!**

Get an INNOVA or ALTIS for as low as **P100,000!**

Special TPS Financing Package!

Model	MPG	Engine	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144	156	168	180	192	204	216	228	240	252	264	276	288	300	312	324	336	348	360	372	384	396	408	420	432	444	456	468	480	492	504	516	528	540	552	564	576	588	600	612	624	636	648	660	672	684	696	708	720	732	744	756	768	780	792	804	816	828	840	852	864	876	888	900	912	924	936	948	960	972	984	996	1008	1020	1032	1044	1056	1068	1080	1092	1104	1116	1128	1140	1152	1164	1176	1188	1200	1212	1224	1236	1248	1260	1272	1284	1296	1308	1320	1332	1344	1356	1368	1380	1392	1404	1416	1428	1440	1452	1464	1476	1488	1500	1512	1524	1536	1548	1560	1572	1584	1596	1608	1620	1632	1644	1656	1668	1680	1692	1704	1716	1728	1740	1752	1764	1776	1788	1800	1812	1824	1836	1848	1860	1872	1884	1896	1908	1920	1932	1944	1956	1968	1980	1992	2004	2016	2028	2040	2052	2064	2076	2088	2100	2112	2124	2136	2148	2160	2172	2184	2196	2208	2220	2232	2244	2256	2268	2280	2292	2304	2316	2328	2340	2352	2364	2376	2388	2400	2412	2424	2436	2448	2460	2472	2484	2496	2508	2520	2532	2544	2556	2568	2580	2592	2604	2616	2628	2640	2652	2664	2676	2688	2700	2712	2724	2736	2748	2760	2772	2784	2796	2808	2820	2832	2844	2856	2868	2880	2892	2904	2916	2928	2940	2952	2964	2976	2988	3000
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Don't wait till Christmas is over... get these offers now!

Gov't '05 borrowings reach P237B

Bulk of borrowings used to fill in budget gap, pre-pay '06 debts

By Maricela V. Ramos

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S net borrowings this year hit its yearly record of P237.3 billion as of November.

The bulk of the borrowings was used to fill in the budget deficit for 2005, and pre-pay next year's financing requirements, according to data from the Department of Finance.

The data also showed that the latest net borrowing figure was a result of the P146.8 billion worth of credit posted from domestic lenders, and P90.742 billion foreign borrowings.

Net borrowings are the difference between the amount of funds loans received, and the amount of national liabilities that the government had paid.

Gross borrowings for the first 11 months of the year stood at P48,241 billion. Of the amount, P300,000 billion were foreign loans, while P382,220 billion were domestic loans at P68,000 billion, mostly in P68,000 billion.

Domestic loans have increased

the government's reliance to borrow domestically rather than to depend to a lesser extent on external loans, exchange rates, which would aggravate its debt burden.

But in November alone, the government posted a net payment of P54.83 billion. This means that it paid more national liabilities than it borrowed. Gross borrowings in November totaled P17,808 billion, while net payment amounted P54,827 billion.

The national government's foreign borrowings are composed of official development assistance from multilateral and bilateral agencies in the form of project or program loans, and commercial borrowings through the issuance of sovereign bonds in the international market.

Domestic borrowings are in-

AN APPEAL TO ABS-CBN

November 17, 2005

ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation
Attn: General Manager
1000 South Alabang Road, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
(Phone No. 876-0000 ext. 200)

Dear Sirs:

Re: The Appeal to ABS-CBN

Gentlemen:

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MONKEY BUSINESS

Street vendors trade in monkeys at outdoor markets in Beijing. This street scene, now depicting the streets of the Five Oils, is made in China. Each costs P10.

LandBank, Watchdog details government dealings

DBP back out of Al Amanah bailout

By Maricela V. Ramos

ALABANG CONSTRUCTION is calling for more volunteers to join the government's dealings.

In the 11 months since its inception, the Al Amanah Construction Corp. has been awarded the contract of government affairs, according to Bureau of Finance, INC.

But the company's role is not a blessing that since its launch in September 2004, the group has managed the distribution of textbooks and medicines, assistance and awards of government programs.

It also handles the distribution of textbooks and medicines, assistance and awards of government programs.

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for Human Development, the Council of Development NGOs, the National Citizens Movement for Free Electoral and the National Citizens Movement for Free Electoral.

According to MRG executive director Colleen Lee, the CMC has sent 11 volunteers to monitor government contract actions worth P1.6 billion.

Lee said the group mostly monitor the transactions of the Department of National Defense, which is still CMC volunteers to assist in contracts worth P1.6 billion.

Other agencies included include the Philippine National Police, Department of Justice, Department of Health and Public Service Authority.

The group suggested that over 100 should be invited to participate in the contract to ensure that the contract is awarded to the best bidder.

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As for the DBP, its staff volunteers are also in various law offices of 45 lawyers' units—mostly in Metro Manila—where they monitor the government's dealings.

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LIFE STYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at life@pdi.com.phDrop us your feedback to:
Manager, Life Style Department (R)
DIF (Class) or DIF (Event)

Editor: Chela Bond-Fernando

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY SBM • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY

SANGRETTA Pie
with fruit

Del Monte eases up the stressful cooking season with quality quickie recipes



DEL Monte's Light Sprinkles freeze than water-soluble.

Holiday treats in a snap

By Margie Sings-Boyes

YIP, DELICIOUS IDEAS MAY require just a little effort.

In this season of celebrations, your festive preparations need not be complicated. You can have a wonderful, impressive holiday spread by using products that will deliver exceptional flavor without needing time, effort, water and stress.

With convenience and practicality in mind, Del Monte has recently launched instant, easy-to-use holiday essentials and party drinks to make your get-together stress-free as you spend time in the kitchen and more time with your loved ones.

Del Monte's Instant Pika Filling, Flavored Syrup, All-Purpose Light Syrup and Maple Syrup are especially formulated for ease of use and shorter preparation time. Made from natural ingredients, the products are healthy or alternatives to artificial flavorings.

For pineapple-based baked delights, Del Monte's Instant Pika Filling can be used as is or as base filling. To speed it up, stir or chop (simply pour the pineapple filling into the pie crust, top with slices of pie crust and you're ready to bake).

Del Monte's Instant Pika is made from thick, concentrated pineapple to preserve its tang and aroma even if combined with other ingredients. It is sugar-free, ideal for diabetics and weight watchers.

"Pineapple and pineapple are among the most versatile and most readily available tropical fruits in the country," says Margie Adriano-Castillo, Del Monte's group product manager.

The Del Monte All-Purpose Light Syrup helps create more stable, smoother icing on cakes, rolls and cupcakes while making loaves, cookies and buns moist and shiny.

With the taste and smell of real maple, the Del Monte Maple Syrup provides the perfect finishing touch for pancakes, waffles and griddle pie. It has the right combination of sweetness and thickness for many baked products.

Party drinks

In time for the holidays, Del Monte has also introduced new ways to spice up the party season with remarkable, easy-to-use mix-alikes, both party drink mixes.

The Pika Cola, Pika Margarita and Cool May (Del Monte's version of the bloody Mary) mix-alikes are ready-to-use drink mixes. You have to shake, pour and serve to get the drink you want.

Castillo says, "Each is made from natural ingredients and has 100 percent BPA-free (recommended daily allowance) for Vitamin C." Del Monte Pika Cola has real-rose flavor and pineapple bits, the all-natural, unsweetened Del Monte Pika Margarita mix has real pineapple bits, and the Del Monte Cool May is made of thick tomato juice rich in lycopene and potassium.

Complementing the drinks are cocktail sprays like Del Monte's Strawberry Margarita Syrup, which is great for smoothies, Sangria Syrup and Blue Raspberry Lemonade Syrup.

Prepare your festive cocktails in a snap. Here are easy cocktail recipes that are sure to be the hits of your Christmas party as well as your holiday dinners that will look great on your table. Guests will never guess just how easily your elegant spread came together.

Sapphire Twist

1 cup (24 oz) Del Monte Light Syrup (R)
1 cup Del Monte Pineapple Flavored Syrup

1 cup crushed ice

Mix all ingredients well, blend (pour into a glass). Garnish and serve.



SANGRETTA Twist

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2005

LIFESTYLE



REGTA Cooked Ham



SM Bama Bear Shaped Ham



HOLIDAY Ham

The many ways to ham it up this Christmas

SLIPPER SM HYPERMARKET OFFERS MANY ham varieties for holiday family gatherings or office parties at affordable prices.

Here are some ham ideas from Slipper SM Hypermarket:

• **Pineapple Cooked Ham**, sugar-glazed, ready-to-serve and boneless, is made from specially selected pork shoulder or leg cuts that are stress-cooked for tenderness.

• **Chinese Cooked Ham**, slightly dry yet tender whole-ham ham, is prepared the traditional way. It is smoked, salted, and finished with Chinese spices, then sugar-glazed.

• **Brick Ham** is an American-style party ham shaped for easy sitting into portions. It is ready to eat, stored, and fully cooked.

• **Bear Shaped Ham** is stored, fully cooked ham made from pork loin meat with hints of sugar, mild spices, and salt. Its affordable price makes it suitable for gift giving.

• **Chicken Cooked Ham** is made from selected whole broilers and mildly smoked chicken with a dash of sweetness. It blends the distinctive taste of smoked pork with ham and unique taste of chicken.

• **Holiday Ham**, a Christmas classic glazed with sugar and pineapple, is great for Hanukkah, New Year and other events.

The hams are available at Slipper SM Hypermarket outlets at SM City Kiosk, SM City Eastwood, SM City Marikina, and the new SM Supercenter Valenzuela and SM Supercenter Malina.

CHOCO Banana Mousse
SUGAR, NO FAT

Holiday treats . . .

From page C1

Pink Margarita

1 can (750) Del Monte Pine Margarita
1 can (24 oz) Del Monte Pineapple Orange 200
1 cup Del Monte Green Pine Syrup
1 cup Del Monte Strawberry Margarita Syrup
1 scoop crushed ice
Blend all ingredients until frothy. Pour into a margarita glass. Garnish and serve.

Choco Banana Mousse

1 c chocolate cookie crumbs
2 tbsp Magnolia Cold Cream
For chocolate mousse:
1 envelope instant powdered gelatin
2/3 c semi-sweet chocolate chips or milk chocolate
1 pack Del Monte Frost Salad Cream, chilled
1 pt fresh egg yolk
75 c Del Monte Banana Pines
Combine chocolate cookie crumbs and melted butter.
Press evenly 2 tbsp of chocolate cookie crumbs in rim of glass or in ramekins or circular cups. Set aside remaining crumbs. Chill for 30 min.
Sprinkle gelatin in 2 cup cold water then mix with 2 cup hot water. Mix until completely dissolved.
Add chocolate chips to double boiler. Whip first until cream trail soft peaks then add egg yolk, banana pines and dissolved gelatin. Add melted chocolate and whipping cream.
Spoon into prepared ramekins. Top with reserved

egg cookie crumbs. Chill for 1 hour or longer before serving. Makes 6 servings.

Banoffee Pie

CRUST:
150 g Graham Cracker Crumbs
75 g Magnolia Baker's Best Margarine, melted
FILLING:
300g Del Monte Banana Pines
50 g Bear Chococini
30 g Magnolia Fresh milk
Topping:
250g Magnolia Whip n Top
100 g cold water
Caramel sauce:
100g sugar
30 g water
125g all purpose cream
15 g Magnolia Cold Cream
Mix thoroughly Graham Cracker crumbs and melted margarine. Press it on in 9" pie pan. Chill until set. Cook milk and Bear Chococini in a saucepan over low heat until smooth.
For topping: Whip whip n Top until smooth. Add cold water while whipping. Whip until stiff. Chill.
Caramel sauce: Heat water and sugar in a saucepan until light brown in color. Remove from heat and gradually add cream and butter. Mix thoroughly until smooth.
Assembly: On the prepared crust pour the mixture in the following order—banana pines, Bear Chococini filling and whipped topping. Drizzle caramel sauce on top. Chill until ready to serve. Makes 6 servings.

PINK Margarita

